



OFFICE OF THE WOLFE COUNTY ATTORNEY

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March 13, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: LightSquared

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I have written to the FCC in the past in support of the efforts of a company known as LightSquared. I continue to support LightSquared, and write today to tell the FCC that LightSquared has played a significant role in helping rural Kentucky recover from the devastating tornadoes which swept through here last week, leaving a path of death and destruction in their wake.

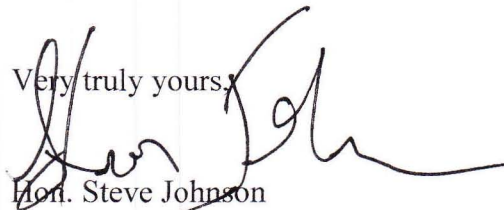
LightSquared provided satellite telephones and other communications equipment to our firefighters, rescue workers, and other emergency workers in Eastern Kentucky. However, the problems caused by poor cell service were not caused by either the tornadoes, or other weather conditions. As I have written in the past, the entire region of Eastern Kentucky suffers from terrible cell service, and is almost totally without wireless broadband service.

I am the elected County Attorney for Wolfe County, Kentucky. LightSquared proposes to sell the cell phone service it provides through its satellite and terrestrial network through small, independently owned retailers. Communities like Campton, the county seat of Wolfe County, have traditionally been underserved by cell phone providers, and a local provider in our community would be a welcome addition to our economy. I understand that, with the demands of modern business, we need to use all of the bandwidth available; otherwise, we are wasting a valuable national resource. I cannot imagine that there is not a portion of the bandwidth somewhere available for use by LightSquared, and I hope that the FCC will do everything it can do to allow LightSquared to find and use that portion of the spectrum.

The issue of bad cell phone service in the mountains of Kentucky is a serious public safety issue. Every year, our first responders see others in larger communities getting better and better equipment, but they know that our level of cell phone and wireless internet service will not support such equipment. They often ask me the question, when will we get good cell phone service here? I hope the FCC and LightSquared can give me an answer to that question.

As a local elected official, I deeply respect the work that the FCC does. I strongly urge your agency to help the people of Eastern Kentucky by finding a solution that will allow LightSquared to go forward to provide the benefits of good cell phone service to all the people of Kentucky. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Hon. Steve Johnson
County Attorney,
Wolfe County, Kentucky